

Nancy Moore House
(Chapline Street Row Historic District)
2305 Chapline Street
Wheeling
Ohio County
West Virginia

HABS No. WV-191

HABS
WVA,
35-WHEEL
11-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

NANCY MOORE HOUSE

HABS No. WV-191

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Location: 23D5 Chapline Street, Wheeling,
Ohio County, West Virginia.

Present Owner
and Occupant Anna M. Tappe.

Present Use: Two family house.

Significance: This house was built in 1868 for Nancy Moore. It is distinguished from the other Chapline Street Buildings studied in this survey by its smaller scale and simplicity of form and detail. The bracketed cornice line and carved stone lintels of its Chapline Street facade harmonize with the more elaborate designs of the neighboring properties.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of erection: 1868. The Ohio County Land Book of 1869 stated that a building had been added the previous year.

2. Architect: Not known.

3. Original and subsequent owners: The Moore House was built on the south one-half of Lot 156 of Chapline and Eoff Addition in Webster Township of Wheeling. The following references to the Title of this lot are found in the Ohio County West Virginia Deed Books.

1866 Deed, 22 September, recorded in Deed Book 50, page 522. William Kraft and wife to Nancy Moore \$2,000.00 for all of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.

1882 Deed, 4 February, recorded in Deed Book 72, page 121. Nancy Moore to J. L. Stroehlein and wife \$5,000.00 for south one-half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.

1884 Deed, 19 March, recorded in Deed Book 75, page 277. J. L. Stroehlein and wife to Conrad P. Stroehlein and wife to Conrad P. Schambra \$4,900 for south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.

1903 Conrad P. Schambra to William A., Herman E., Christian J., Phillip J., Eva Schambra and Louisa Cruse his legal heirs.

1904 Deed, 27 February, recorded in Deed Book 114, page 356. William A. Schambra et al (not including Eva) to Charles F. Meyer \$5,333.33 for 5/6 interest in the south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.

- 1904 Deed, 29 February, recorded in Deed Book 114, page 356. Louisa Gruse, Committee of Eva Schambra to Charles F. Meyer \$634.75 for one sixth interest in south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1905 Deed, 12 July, recorded in Deed Book 119, page 63. Charles F. Meyer to Orphina Spangler south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1906 Deed, 4 August, recorded in Deed Book 122, page 440. Orphina Spangler to Rosa M. Kraft south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1909 Deed, 27 April, recorded in Deed Book 130, page 175. Rosa M. Kraft to Peter Backman south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1909 Deed, 27 April, recorded in Deed Book 130, page 176. Peter Backman to Frank L. Kraft and wife, Rosa. South one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1910 Deed, 25 May, recorded in Deed Book 134, page 5. Frank L. and Rosa M. Kraft to Henry Beneke south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1910 Deed, 25 May, recorded in Deed Book 134, page 6. Henry Beneke to Rosa M. Kraft and Frank south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1912 Will, probated 24 October, recorded in Will Book 10, page 651. Rosa M. Kraft devised to L. F. Haller, Executor. Item VII "all my property, both real, personal and mixed...shall be sold by my executor...and converted into money." Item VIII "I direct... my Trustee, to pay the income of said trust money and investment to my beloved husband."
- 1913 Deed, 23 May, recorded in Deed Book 143, page 351. Frank L. Kraft and wife (deceased) to Florence Maury south one-half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
1913. 23 May, recorded in Deed Book 143, page 352. L. F. Haller to Florence Maury south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1920 Deed, 7 June, recorded in Deed Book 171, page 500. Florence and Fred L. Maury to David I. Taflan and wife south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.
- 1934 Deed, 15 December, recorded in Deed Book 243, page 23. Emma A. Taflan to David I. Taflan south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.

1944 Will, June 14, 1944 probated, recorded in Will Book 23, page 585. David I. Taflan devised to his children David I. Jr., Dank, Sylvia Marie "In the event that my wife remarries all property is to be converted into money as soon as possible after such marriage and the money divided in equal shares among my wife and my children."

1975 Deed, 26 August, recorded in Deed Book 562, page 449. David I. Taflan, Jr. et al to Anna M. Tappe, mother of the parties of the first part south one half of Lot 156, Chapline and Eoff Addition.

4. Original plans, construction, etc.: Not known.
5. Alterations, additions, etc: It was possible to view only the first floor of this house. The rear stairway leading to the basement has been removed and a bathroom has been installed in its place. A small one room frame addition has been added at the rear of this building. Apart from these structural changes the only other changes were those involved in modernizing the kitchen, adding electricity, and presumably the introduction of a second floor bathroom.

B. Historical Events and Persons Associated with the Building:

The Nancy Moore House is a small modest structure which is remarkable in the 2300 block of Chapline Street for its smaller scale and the simplicity of its form and line. There is apparently no information on Nancy Moore available today. However, two subsequent owners were considered to be worthy subjects for Wheeling's biographers.

John L. Stroehlein bought the house at 2305 Chapline Street from Nancy Moore. Born in 1830 in Wurtemberg, Germany, Stroehlein immigrated to the United States and settled in Wheeling in 1853, where he worked at a number of jobs before engaging in the insurance business. He worked for the German Insurance Company for four years. In 1874 he joined in a business with another man in manufacturing steel at Martin's Ferry. He served that company for two years as its secretary and, when the business failed at the end of that time, he joined the German Bank of Wheeling as bookkeeper.

On May 1, 1883 he left the bank to assume the position of assistant secretary of the Franklin Insurance Company. On January 1, 1884, he was elected secretary of the company, a position which he held until August 1, 1887 when he was named secretary of the Jefferson Insurance Company.

John L. Stroehlein was recognized as being "prominent among those citizens of Wheeling interested in the development of the insurance business, already grown to large proportions through the skillful management of these gentlemen..."¹

Conrad Schambra purchased the Nancy Moore house in 1884. Born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, in 1831, Schambra learned the trade of a tailor before immigrating to the United States and settling in Wheeling in 1851. Upon arrival in Wheeling Schambra joined with his relative, D. Schambra, in operating a tailoring establishment. In 1865 he opened his own business on Main Street in Center Wheeling and operated it alone until his son, William A. Schambra, joined him in 1885 at which time the business became known as C. P. Schrambra and Son.

"Mr. Schrambra came to this country quite poor, except in the possession of a well-learned trade and genius and capacity for work, and by continued application he has so well succeeded that he is now well known as a businessman and one of the substantial and influential men of Wheeling."²

C. Sources of Information:

Anonymous. History of the Upper Ohio Valley, with Family History and Biographical Sketches. Madison, Wisconsin; Brant and Fuller, 1980.

1. Anonymous. History of the Upper Ohio Valley p. 449.
2. History of the Upper Ohio Valley p. 424.

Prepared by: Candace Reed, Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
September, 1976

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This two story house is older and smaller than the other houses under study on Chapline Street. It is also marked by its simplicity of form and detail.
2. Condition of fabric: Poor.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The original two-story building is approximately twenty six feet across the three-bay front (east) by fifty seven feet deep. There is a twenty by ten foot addition on the rear.
2. Layout, shape: Rectangular.

3. Foundations: Stone. There is a large crack along the front, indicating foundation settlement.
4. Wall construction, finish and color: The walls are red brick on the original building. The front is painted pale red. The addition in the rear is frame.
5. Structural system, framing: A view of the structural framing system was inaccessible, but it is undoubtedly wood timber.
6. Porches, stoops, bulkheads: There are three stone steps leading directly up to the front door, with no porch or stoop. There is a covered exterior porch at both floors on the north wall. The supporting wooden columns and the railing appear to be original. There is another small raised open deck at the rear. It is not original.
7. Chimneys: There are four brick chimneys.
8. Openings:
 - a. Doors and doorways: The front doorway is at the right (north) side of the front. It has paneled wooden double doors flanked by pilasters and a cornice-frieze detail above with a bracket to each side. There are other exterior doors to the north side and one in the rear (west).
 - b. Windows and shutters: The front (east) windows are double hung with a single pane each sash. There are decorative wooden lintel elements applied above the windows, repeating the design of the frieze over the door. There are no shutters.
9. Roof:
 - a. Shape, covering: Gabled, with a tar paper covering.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: There is a very simple cornice across the front with supporting brackets. The two brackets at the extreme ends are larger than the others.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: This moderate size house has three major rooms back to back on the first floor. The front entry, at the extreme right (north) of the front opens onto a small entry foyer with a stair leading to the second floor. To the left of this foyer is the main front room. The second floor, which was inaccessible, is apparently similar in plan. The basement, which was also inaccessible extends the full length under the building.

2. Stairways: There is one interior stairway to the second floor. This is a straight run along the north wall of the foyer. An exterior stair on the porch (north wall exterior) also leads to the second floor.
 3. Flooring: The wooden floors appear to be original.
 4. Wall and ceiling finishes: Painted plaster.
 5. Doors and doorways: Not noted.
 6. Decorative features: The stairway newel post, railing as well as window and door trim appear to be original.
 7. Mechanical equipment: Contemporary.
- D. Site and Surroundings: The building faces Chapline Street with adjacent residences approximately five feet to either side. There is a yard in the rear with a brick walkway leading to the alley at the back of the property.

Prepared by: John McRae
Architectural Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
September, 1976

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey under the general direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS, and Kenneth L. Anderson, HABS Principal Architect, in cooperation with the Friends of Wheeling, Inc. The measured drawings were made during the summer of 1976 under the supervision of John M. McRae (University of Florida) with architectural technicians Mark L. Hall, Foreman, (Pennsylvania State University); Edward C. Freeman (Arizona State University); Ruthie D. Wiley (Mississippi State University); Alan G. Wilig (City College of New York); and Architectural Historian Candace Reed (George Washington University). The photographs were taken in 1977 by HABS Photographer Jack E. Boucher.

ADDENDUM TO:

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